

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

June 6, 2019

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Mr. Nick Surgey MuckRock DEPT MR 40087 Somerville, Massachusetts 02144

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request EPA-HQ-2017-009538

Dear Mr. Surgey:

This letter concerns the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act request received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on July 18, 2017, which requested a copy of "prepared remarks (talking points, written speeches, scripts, powerpoint presentations, etc) for EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt when he has attended external events. A search may be limited to records created between 2/17/2017 an 7/16/2017."

A search of the EPA's Office of the Administrator for records responsive to your request produced 94 pages of records. The records are being withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5), the Deliberative Process Privilege. The records are exempt from disclosure because they are predecisional and deliberative and would harm agency decision-making if released.

This letter concludes our response to your request. You may appeal this final response with an email to hq.foia@epa.gov, through FOIAonline if you are an account holder or by writing to:

National FOIA Office U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2310A) Washington, D.C. 20460

Please note that only correspondence mailed through the U.S. Postal Service can be delivered to the address above. If you would like to deliver your appeal in person, via courier service or via an overnight delivery service, you must address your correspondence to 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 5315, Washington, D.C. 20460.

Your written appeal must be received no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter and should include the request number listed above. The EPA will not consider appeals received after the 90-calendar-day limit. Appeals received after 5 p.m. Eastern time will be considered as having been received the next business day. For the quickest possible handling, the

subject line of your email or the appeal letter and its envelope should be marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Additionally, you may seek dispute resolution services from EPA's FOIA public liaison at hq.foia@epa.gov or (202) 566-1667 or from the Office of Government Information Services. You may contact OGIS with an email to ogis@nara.gov; by calling (202) 741-5770 or (877) 684-6448; with a fax to (202) 741-5769; or by mail to Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8610 Adelphi Road, Room 2510, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001.

If you have any questions about this response, please contact Kevin Hill at (202) 564-1652 or hill.kevinw@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth B. White

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Director